Amendments to the Abstract

Please **add** the following Abstract to this application.

-- A fault-tolerant router (~~100~~) includes first and second router matrix card (~~122a and 122b~~). The first and second router matrix cards (~~122a, 122b~~) receive a common set of 4n parity encoded input digital audio data streams and respectively generates therefrom, first and second sets of M output digital audio streams. As the first and second sets of data streams propagate along the first and second router matrix cards (~~122a and 122b~~), respectively, one or more health bits are set whenever an error or other type of fault condition is detected. First and second parity check circuits (~~130a and 130b~~) are configured to detect parity errors and/or assess the relative health of the first and second sets of data streams and one of the two sets of data streams is selected as the output of the fault-tolerant router (~~100~~) based upon either the parity error analysis, health analysis or both. --